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U.S. Adjutant-General's  
Office

Monthly allowances for the  
dependents of soldiers...

[Washington]

[1942]

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# Monthly Allowances for the Dependents of Soldiers

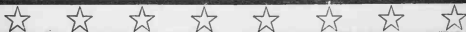
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Box 667



*Under the Servicemen's Dependents Allowance  
Act of 1942*



## NOTICE

Here are five of the most important facts to know:

1. Applications for a family allowance should be made by the soldier in every case where practicable. However, where this is impracticable, applications may be made by or on behalf of the relatives or dependents of a soldier.
2. Every application for a family allowance must be made on the official application form. The form contains full instructions on how to fill it out.
3. Soldiers obtain official application forms from their commanding officers; civilians may obtain official application forms from the nearest Army installation; see page 12.
4. After an application is filed, all changes in the status of the soldier or his relatives or dependents which might affect the allowance must be reported immediately; see page 2.
5. Dependents of soldiers reported missing, besieged, interned, or captured may, if necessary, apply for allotments from the soldier's pay; see page 20.

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## I. EXPLANATION

Under the new Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942, which the President signed on June 23, 1942, allowances are provided for the wives and children, and certain dependent relatives, of men in the lower grades of the Army. *This benefit is limited to relatives and dependents of enlisted men in the seventh, sixth, fifth, and fourth grades. In the Army, these grades are: Private, private first class, technician fifth grade, corporal, technician fourth grade, and sergeant.*

Here is how the law works: A soldier who has relatives or dependents who are eligible gets an official application form (W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 625) from his commanding officer. He fills out the form, following the simple directions printed thereon. He then returns the form to his commanding officer.

The original of the application is sent to the Allowance and Allotment Branch, Building "Y," 20th and B Streets NE., Washington, D. C., where the case is reviewed and investigated, and either approved or disapproved. Each applicant is notified promptly when his application has been received in Washington and again when it has been approved or disapproved.

If his application is approved, the allowance to his relatives or dependents will begin to accrue on the first of the next succeeding month following the date of application, and will be payable to the relatives or dependents following the end of that month (see page 11). The allowance will continue to be payable each month thereafter as long as the soldier and his relatives or dependents remain eligible for it, up until 6 months after the present war ends.

*Relatives and dependents should not file an application until they are sure that the soldier has not filed, or cannot file, one. If they apply, however, relatives and dependents must use the official application form, and must accompany their applications with certain documentary evidence. If the soldier files the application, he is allowed 6 months in which to furnish the documentary evidence. This evidence is explained on the application form.*

Official application forms (W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 625) are being distributed to all Army organiza-

tions and installations throughout the world. Civilians may obtain forms by writing to the commanding officer of the nearest Army post or camp, to the nearest Army Recruiting Station, to the local chapter of the American Red Cross, to this office, or to the commanding general of any of the nine service commands (formerly corps areas). (See page 12 for the addresses of these service commands.)

After an application is filed, it is usually unnecessary to write further letters to the War Department regarding the allowance. Unnecessary correspondence adds to the War Department's great volume of work, and delays action on all applications. However, all changes in the status of the soldier or his relatives or dependents which might affect the allowance must be reported immediately. Changes in the status of the soldier are normally reported automatically by the soldier's unit personnel officer. *However, the soldier and the persons to whom the family allowances are paid are responsible that such changes as the following are reported immediately to the Allowance and Allotment Branch: Change of address; birth of a child; death of a beneficiary; divorce of a wife; remarriage of a parent or a former wife divorced; the marriage of a brother, sister, child, or grandchild; or the fact any Class B dependent of a soldier ceases to be dependent upon him.* These changes are to be reported on an official change of status form (W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 641) which may be obtained from the same sources as the official application form.

*Each family allowance is made up of money deducted from, or charged to, the soldier's pay and money contributed by the Government. The exact amount of the deduction from the soldier's pay varies, and is explained on page 9, "The Soldier's Contribution."*

## II. WHO IS ELIGIBLE

For the purposes of family allowances, the relatives and dependents of a soldier are divided into two classes: "Class A" and "Class B." In Class A are the wife and children of the soldier and a former wife divorced to whom alimony is payable. Class A relatives do not have to be dependent upon the soldier in order to be eligible for a family allowance. In Class B are the parents, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren of the soldier. Class B dependents must be dependent upon the soldier for a substantial portion of their support in order to be eligible.

## Meanings of Terms in Class A and Class B

In determining who is eligible for allowances, the terms used in Class A and Class B have the following meanings:

### Class A

Wife—A lawful wife.

Child—Includes the following:

- (1) A legitimate child.
- (2) A child legally adopted.
- (3) A stepchild, if a member of the man's household, including a stepchild who continues as a member of the man's household after the death of the mother or termination of the marriage; and
- (4) An illegitimate child, but only if the man has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute to such child's support; has been judicially decreed to be the putative father of such child; or has acknowledged under oath in writing that he is the father of such child.

Former wife divorced—Former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed and is still payable.

### Class B

Parent—Includes father and mother, grandfather and grandmother, stepfather and stepmother, father and mother through adoption, either of the soldier or of his wife, and persons who, for a period of not less than 1 year prior to the man's enlistment or induction, stood in place of parents (in loco parentis) to the soldier. (NOTE.—No more than two parents are eligible for an allowance based on the service of one soldier.)

Brother and sister—Includes brothers and sisters of the half blood, as well as those of the whole blood, stepbrothers and stepsisters, and brothers and sisters through adoption.

Grandchild—A child as above defined of a child as above defined, and is limited to persons to whom the soldier has stood in place of parents (in loco parentis) for a period of not less than 1 year prior to his enlistment or induction.

NOTE.—The terms "child," "grandchild," "brother," and "sister" are limited to unmarried persons either (1) under 18 years of age, or (2) of any age, if incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect.

### III. HOW MUCH WILL A RELATIVE OR DEPENDENT GET?

As explained above, each allowance is made up of money deducted from, or charged to, the soldier's pay and money contributed by the Government. The first question that most people ask is: What is the total amount that a relative or dependent will get? Below is printed a list of typical cases and the total amount of the monthly allowance if an application for them is approved. (The manner in which this allowance is divided among relatives and dependents is explained on page 10, "The Government's Contribution.") Remember that part of this money is contributed by the soldier and part by the Government. For example, a wife (no children) receives a check for \$50 every month. Of this, the Government has contributed \$28. The remainder, or \$22, has been deducted from, or charged to, the soldier's pay. The following amounts include both the soldier's contribution and the Government's contribution:

#### Total Monthly Allowance, Including Government's Contribution and Soldier's Contribution

Wife but no child	\$50
Wife and 1 child	62
Wife and 2 children	72
Wife and 3 children	82
Wife and 4 children	92
Wife and 5 children	102
No wife but 1 child	42
No wife but 2 children	52
No wife but 3 children	62
No wife but 4 children	72
No wife but 5 children	82
Divorced wife	Up to 42

(The total allowance payable to a divorced wife depends on the amount of the alimony and the number of other dependents of the soldier, but in no case will the allowance exceed the decreed alimony, nor \$42 per month. Questions on specific cases should be referred directly to the Allowance and Allotment Branch.)

1 parent	37
1 parent and 1 sister, brother, or grandchild	42
1 parent and 2 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	47
1 parent and 3 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	52
1 parent and 4 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	57
1 parent and 5 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	62
1 parent and 6 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	67
2 parents	47
2 parents and 1 sister, brother, or grandchild	52
2 parents and 2 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	57

2 parents and 3 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	\$62
2 parents and 4 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	67
2 parents and 5 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	72
No parent but 1 sister, brother, or grandchild	27
No parent but 2 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	32
No parent but 3 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	37
No parent but 4 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	42
No parent but 5 sisters, brothers, or grandchildren	47
Wife but no child and 1 parent	70
Wife but no child and 2 parents	80
Wife, 1 child, and 1 parent	82
Wife, 2 children, and 1 parent	92
Wife, 3 children, and 1 parent	102
Wife, 4 children, and 1 parent	112

Many other combinations of relatives and dependents are possible, and are authorized for allowances when eligible. The above are presented only as typical examples.

### IV. HOW TO FILE AN APPLICATION

Allowances will be paid *only on application* by the soldier or his relatives or dependents or by persons acting on their behalf. Applications must be submitted on the *official application form* (W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 625). In other words, no letters or other informal applications will be accepted. Soldiers obtain the forms from their commanding officers; civilians may obtain them by writing to the commanding officer of the nearest Army post or camp, to the nearest Army Recruiting Station, to the local chapter of the American Red Cross, to this office, or to the commanding general of any of the nine service commands. (See page 12 for the addresses of these service commands.)

The official application is a four-page form. The front page is the Original of the application, next is the Official copy, next is the Applicant's copy (to be retained by the applicant), and the final page contains detailed instructions. The pages are easy to identify because of the large letters printed across the face of each page.

When an application is made by a soldier, he returns the Original and the Official copy to his organization commander, or to his unit personnel

officer, who sends the Original to the Allowance and Allotment Branch, and files the Official copy with the soldier's service record.

When an application is made by, or for, a relative or dependent, *the Original and the Official copy*, plus all documentary evidence required, are mailed to the Allowance and Allotment Branch, Building "Y," 20th and B Streets NE., Washington, D. C. The Applicant's copy is retained by the applicant.

In filling out the application, a typewriter should be used, if possible. If not, the applicant should print legibly in ink.

*Every question must be answered.* If a certain question is not applicable to the case, "None" should be written after the question.

*Read the instructions on the form.* There is an explanation of every question, showing exactly what is wanted in each space. Follow these instructions carefully.

After filling out the form, review and check all entries to insure that they are accurate. The penalties for fraud are severe and are printed on the form.

*Remember that every statement involving relationship and dependency must be proved by documentary evidence.* In other words, it is not enough to say that you are the mother of Private John Doe. You must submit affidavits from at least two reputable, disinterested persons, attesting to that fact and to the fact that you are dependent upon the soldier for a substantial portion of your support. The reason for this is obvious. If affidavits were not required, someone else might claim that she is the mother of your son and attempt to collect an allowance based on his service. (See "Dependency," page 9.)

## V. DOCUMENTARY PROOF WHICH MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION

If application is made by a person other than the soldier, the following documentary proof *must accompany the application*. However, if application is made by the soldier, he may have up to 6 months from the date of filing the application in which to furnish such documentary proof to the Allowance and Allotment Branch, War Department.

## Date of Birth of Minors Who Are Under 18 Years of Age

- a. A certified copy of the public record of birth or church record of baptism.
- b. If a above cannot be produced, an explanation and an affidavit from physician or midwife in attendance at birth.
- c. If a or b above cannot be produced, the affidavits of two or more disinterested persons stating their ages and the name, date, and place of birth of the person whose date of birth is being established and stating that to the best of their own knowledge such person is the child of such parents, naming the parents.
- d. If a, b, or c above cannot be produced, an explanation why, and other evidence such as family Bible, church, naturalization, immigration or hospital records, abstracts of passports, or insurance policies, etc., provided it is properly certified as a true copy of the original by a notary public or similar official and supported by documents such as affidavits from disinterested persons.

## Proof of Marriage to Soldier

- a. A duly certified copy of the public or church record.
- b. If a above cannot be produced, an explanation and an affidavit of the clergyman or magistrate who officiated.
- c. If b above cannot be procured, the production of the original marriage certificate or a certified photostatic copy accompanied by proof of its genuineness and the authority of the person to perform the marriage.
- d. If a, b, or c above cannot be procured, then the affidavit of two or more eyewitnesses to the ceremony.
- e. In jurisdictions where common-law marriages are recognized, proof may be established by affidavit of one or both parties to the marriage, if living, supplemented by affidavits of two or more witnesses who know that the parties lived together as husband and wife and were so recognized, and stating how long to their knowledge such relationship continued.

***Adoption of a Minor Under 18 by the Soldier or Previous Adoption of the Soldier by a Foster Parent***

A certificate from the clerk of the court which legalized the adoption, or certified copy of order of adoption from a court of competent jurisdiction.

***Illegitimate Child of a Soldier***

Certified copy of court decree adjudging soldier to be putative father of child, or of court order requiring him to contribute to child's support, or soldier's written acknowledgment under oath that he is the father of the child.

***Change of Name of a Dependent of the Soldier***

- a. A certified copy of decree of the court order or other court record effecting such change of name.
- b. Affidavit from two disinterested persons setting forth the facts and the cause for, and circumstances concerning, the change of name, in States which do not require a court order or record.

***Divorce of Former Wife of the Soldier; Separation or Maintenance Concerning Wife, Former Wife, or Children***

- a. Certified copy of the divorce decree from the court in which such decree was awarded.
- b. Separation or maintenance agreement concerning wife, former wife, or children, to which must be appended an affidavit that the same is a true copy in all respects and is still in full force and effect.

***Guardianship of a Dependent of the Soldier***

Certified copy of court decree and certification by clerk of the court that the guardian so appointed is now performing his duty as such.

***Mental or Physical Defects***

Affidavit that unmarried child, grandchild, brother, or sister, if over 18 years of age, is incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defects, corroborated by affidavit of licensed physician or psychiatrist.

***Relationship of Parent (in Loco Parentis)***

Affidavit of two disinterested persons of facts showing that dependent stood in loco parentis to soldier for 1 year or more immediately prior to his induction or enlistment into service; degree of control exercised over soldier should be indicated.

***Dependency (Class B)***

Proof of status by affidavits of at least two reputable, disinterested persons attesting to the relationship and dependency of the relative to the soldier is required. If any of the subjects under the headings shown above are involved, the proof must be furnished for that subject by submission of the appropriate documents as listed for that subject. Affidavits submitted as evidence of dependency should set forth the facts in sufficient detail to furnish the War Department a complete picture of the case. Affidavits should include the identification and address of the maker, the relationship to or the status with respect to the dependents, the manner in which the facts to which oath is made were acquired, and the approximate percentage of the total income of the dependents contributed by the soldier.

**VI. THE SOLDIER'S CONTRIBUTION**

*For each month for which an allowance is paid to the relatives or dependents of a soldier, \$22 will be deducted from, or charged to, his pay. This deduction or charge is made whether they are in Class A or Class B. However, if allowances are paid for both Class A and Class B, \$27 will be deducted from his pay. (The above amounts are the normal situation. However, if by legal agreement or court order, the soldier is obligated to pay alimony or support, which is a lesser amount than the total allowance, the monthly deductions from his pay and the Government's contribution will be reduced proportionately.)*

Here is a typical example: If a soldier obtains an allowance for his wife and children, he will have \$22 deducted from, or charged to, his pay each month, because these relatives are in Class A. If, however, he also obtains an allowance for a dependent parent, brother, sister, or grandchild, he will have an additional \$5, or \$27 in all, deducted from, or charged to, his pay each month.

See page 3 for an explanation of Class A and Class B dependents.



## VII. THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION

In addition to the soldier's contribution, the Government will contribute the following amounts to *Class A relatives*:

- (1) \$28 to a wife with no child.
- (2) \$40 to a wife with one child, and an additional \$10 for each additional child.
- (3) \$20 to one child where there is no wife.
- (4) \$30 to two children where there is no wife and an additional \$10 for each additional child.
- (5) Up to \$20 to a former wife divorced (if alimony is being paid by court decree).

In addition to the soldier's contribution the Government will contribute the following amounts to *Class B dependents*:

- (1) \$15 to one parent, if one only, and an additional \$5 for each brother, sister, or grandchild (the whole not to total more than \$50).
- (2) \$25 to two parents and an additional \$5 for each brother, sister, or grandchild (the whole not to total more than \$50).
- (3) \$5 to each brother, sister, or grandchild, if there are no parents (the whole not to total more than \$50).

No more than two parents may receive family allowance and no Government contribution to Class B dependents may exceed \$50. In any case where the Government's contribution to Class B dependents would exceed \$50, the amount contributed by the Government to each such dependent will be reduced in the same proportion as the total Government's contribution to all such dependents is reduced.

The soldier's contribution to the allowance is divided among beneficiaries in the following manner:

- a. If the soldier's beneficiaries are all Class A relatives or are all Class B dependents, the soldier's contribution (normally \$22) will be apportioned among them in the same ratio in which they share the Government's contribution.
- b. If the soldier's beneficiaries are in both Class A and Class B (which means that the soldier's contribution will normally be \$27), \$22 will be apportioned among those in Class A in the same ratio in which they share the Government's contribution and \$5 will be apportioned

among Class B dependents in the same ratio in which they share the total Government's contribution.

For example, the total family allowance payable to one dependent parent and one dependent brother is \$42 per month. Of this the Government has contributed \$20 (\$15 for the parent and \$5 for the brother). The soldier's contribution of \$22 is apportioned in the same way—the parent gets fifteen-twentieths of the soldier's contribution (or \$16.50) and the brother gets five-twentieths of the soldier's contribution (or \$5.50). Adding the soldier's contribution and the Government's contribution together, the parent will receive \$31.50 per month and the brother will receive \$10.50 per month. These two payments will normally be made in one check mailed to the parent, but can be made by a check mailed to each of the dependents, if necessary.

Another example: The total family allowance payable to a wife and two dependent parents is \$80. Of this the Government has contributed \$28 for the wife and \$25 for the two dependent parents. The soldier has contributed \$22 for the wife and \$5 for the parents. Adding the soldier's contribution and the Government's contribution together, the wife will receive \$50 per month and the two parents will receive \$30 per month, or \$15 each per month.

## VIII. COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**1. Q. How soon after an application is made can the relatives or dependents expect to receive the allowance?**

A. Normally, when an application which is not retroactive is approved, the allowance will begin to accrue on the first of the next succeeding month following the date of application, and payment will be made following the end of that month. For example, if an application is made on December 27, the deduction from the soldier's pay will be made in January, and the allowance will be paid to the relatives or dependents immediately following the end of January.

**2. Q. What is considered the "date of application"?**

A. The date of application is the date on which the soldier's application is filed with his commanding officer. The date of application for applications submitted by civilian sources is the date on which the application is received by the Allowance and Allotment Branch in Washington, D. C.

**3. Q. Should an application be made by the soldier or by his relatives or dependents?**

A. Applications should be made by the soldier whenever possible in order to avoid duplication which might delay action by causing unnecessary work. Before making an application, a relative or dependent should write to the soldier to make sure that duplicate applications are not made. However, applications made on the official application form by the relatives or dependents, or anyone acting for them, are permissible.

**4. Q. What is the present base pay per month of soldiers of the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh grades?**

A. Fourth grade—\$78 per month (sergeants and technicians fourth grade).

Fifth grade—\$66 per month (corporals and technicians fifth grade).

Sixth grade—\$54 per month (privates first class).

Seventh grade—\$50 per month (privates).

Each soldier receives an increase of 5 percent of the base pay of his grade for each 3 years of active Federal service, up to 30 years. This increase is called "longevity pay." Also, the base pay of each soldier serving beyond the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska is increased by 20 percent. This increase is figured on the base pay only, and not on the longevity pay.

**5. Q. Where may official application forms be obtained?**

A. Official application forms (W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 625) are being distributed to all Army organizations and installations throughout the world. Civilians may obtain forms by writing to the commanding officer of the nearest Army post or camp, to the nearest Army Recruiting Station, the local chapter of the American Red Cross, to this office, or to the commanding general of any of the nine service commands. Following are the addresses of these service commands:

Commanding General, First Service Command,  
Boston, Mass.

Commanding General, Second Service Command,  
Governors Island, N. Y.

Commanding General, Third Service Command,  
Baltimore, Md.

Commanding General, Fourth Service Command,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Commanding General, Fifth Service Command,  
Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio.

Commanding General, Sixth Service Command,  
Chicago, Ill.

Commanding General, Seventh Service Command,  
Omaha, Nebr.

Commanding General, Eighth Service Command,  
Fort Sam Houston, Tex.

Commanding General, Ninth Service Command,  
Fort Douglas, Utah.

In corresponding with military organizations, do not address a letter to an individual officer by name. Use only the title of the officer, such as "commanding general" or "commanding officer."

**6. Q. Does a wife or child of a soldier have to prove that he or she is financially dependent on the soldier in order to get an allowance?**

A. No. Class A relatives do not have to prove dependency. They must, however, prove relationship by submitting a duly certified copy of the record of marriage, birth certificate, divorce decree, adoption, etc. An explanation of the evidence required is on page 6.

**7. Q. Does a parent, brother, sister, or grandchild of a soldier have to prove that he or she is dependent on the soldier in order to get an allowance?**

A. Yes. Class B dependents must prove that they are dependent on a soldier for a substantial portion of their support, and must also prove their relationship to him.

**8. Q. How can a relative who is dependent upon a soldier for a substantial portion of his or her support prove that fact?**

A. By submitting with the application affidavits from at least two reputable disinterested persons attesting to the relationship and the degree of dependency of the relative to the soldier. (See page 9 for documentary evidence required.)

**9. Q. Will payments be by check, money order, or cash?**

A. Payments will be made by Government check, mailed once each month.

**10. Q. Will checks be sent to each relative or dependent of a soldier?**

A. Payments of monthly family allowances on behalf of any relatives or dependents found entitled thereto will be made to such relatives or dependents or to any person or institution designated by the soldier, or determined by the Allowance and Allotment Branch to be a proper person to whom such payments should be made. For example, the allowance for a wife and children may be included in one check to the wife. Or the allowance to a

dependent father and a dependent mother-in-law may be in two checks, one sent to the father and one sent to the mother-in-law. A space is provided on the application form for the applicant to show where he wishes the allowance check to be sent.

**11. Q. If a dependent is in a hospital or institution, can payment of the family allowance be made to some other person or to the institution, for the credit of that dependent?**

A. Yes. If the applicant desires payment be made to a person other than the entitled relative or dependent, or to an institution, for the credit of that dependent, the name and address of such person or institution will be entered on the application in the proper location. The Allowance and Allotment Branch will determine whether or not the payee designated is the proper person to receive payment.

**12. Q. Can a mother having two sons in the service receive an allowance from both of them?**

A. Yes, provided it can be shown that each had contributed a substantial portion of her support.

**13. Q. Are officers, Army nurses, warrant officers, cadets USMA, aviation cadets, master sergeants, technical sergeants, first sergeants, staff sergeants, technicians third grade, and members of the WAAC entitled to a family allowance for their relatives or dependents?**

A. No. The benefits of this Act are limited to certain relatives and dependents of soldiers of the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh grades; namely, line sergeants, technicians fourth grade, corporals, technicians fifth grade, privates first class, and privates. Dependents of men in higher grades must look to voluntary allotments from the officers' or soldiers' pay for their support.

**14. Q. Under what conditions will allowances be terminated?**

A. Allowances will be terminated whenever the report is received that the soldier or his beneficiaries cease to be eligible for them. For example, payments of allowance (or that portion of the allowance affected) will terminate at the end of the month in which notice is received of—

- (1) The soldier's death in, or discharge from, the service, or his appointment to the third or a higher grade in the Army.
- (2) The death of any beneficiary.
- (3) The attainment of the 18th year of age by any brother, sister, child, or grandchild, except those physically or mentally incapable of self-support.
- (4) The marriage of any brother, sister, child, or grandchild.

- (5) The remarriage of a former wife divorced.
- (6) The cessation of dependency of any Class B dependent.
- (7) The enlisted man's request that the payment of monthly allowance to any Class B dependent be terminated.
- (8) All allowances will terminate 6 months after the present war ends.

**15. Q. What happens to a family allowance if the soldier deserts the service?**

A. Payment of monthly allowances will terminate at the end of the month in which notice is received of the soldier's conviction of desertion, or after the soldier has been absent in desertion for 3 months, whichever occurs first. If he is later restored to duty, such allowances may be reinstated as of the first of the month next succeeding that in which such restoration occurs.

**16. Q. What arrangements should a man make who is about to be inducted and wants to obtain allowance for his relatives or dependents?**

A. Every soldier in the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh grades has the opportunity to apply for an allowance for certain of his relatives and dependents. A new selectee is normally in the seventh grade, or private. A man who is about to be inducted need make no arrangements regarding the allowance prior to actual induction (except that he should gather together the documentary evidence to back up the application he intends to make). He will be given the opportunity to file an application after he has been inducted.

**17. Q. What effect will the family allowance deduction from the soldier's pay have on Class E allotments which he may now have in effect?**

NOTE.—The making of a Class E allotment is simply a privilege which soldiers have had for many years. Under this privilege, a soldier asks the Army to have a certain amount of his pay sent each month to a relative or placed to his credit with a bank. The portion of his pay so allotted is called a Class E allotment.

A. The soldier may continue the Class E allotment, may reduce it, or may discontinue it. The soldier's commanding officer also has the authority to reduce the Class E allotment or discontinue it, if it is necessary in order to provide a pay credit to cover the monthly deduction from the soldier's pay for the family allowance, and still leave the soldier a \$10-per-month credit for his local personal needs.

**18. Q.** Are family allowances subject to claim or attachment?

A. Family allowances are not assignable, not subject to the claims of creditors of any person to whom or on behalf of whom they are paid, and are not liable to attachment, levy, or seizure by or under any legal or equitable process whatever.

**19. Q.** Is it compulsory for a soldier in the last four grades to apply for a family allowance for his Class A relatives? (See page 3 for definition of Class A relatives.)

A. Unit commanders will make a definite effort to have eligible soldiers file applications for family allowances for known Class A relatives. In case the soldier refuses to file such application, the facts in the case, together with the unit commander's recommendation, will be reported to the Allowance and Allotment Branch. The Allowance and Allotment Branch will then afford known Class A relatives so reported every opportunity to file application for family allowances on their own behalf. In the absence of application, either from the soldier or by or on behalf of known Class A relatives, no further action will be taken toward payment of the family allowance in that particular case.

**20. Q.** If the Class A relatives of a soldier make application for a family allowance, and the soldier thinks they should not be granted an allowance because of special circumstances, can the soldier appeal for relief from the requirement of providing a family allowance for them?

A. There is no way in which the soldier may control an application made by or on behalf of an eligible Class A dependent. Section 104 (Public Law 625—77th Congress) states: "A monthly family allowance shall be granted and paid by the United States to the Class A dependent or dependents of any such enlisted man upon written application to the department concerned made by such enlisted man or made by or on behalf of such dependent or dependents."

**21. Q.** Is it compulsory for a soldier to apply for a family allowance for his Class B dependents? (See page 3 for definition of Class B dependents.)

A. No. A family allowance for eligible Class B dependents is entirely optional with the soldier and may be stopped at any time at his request.

**22. Q.** What effect will a sentence of a court martial, or being sick *not* in line of duty, have upon a soldier's family allowance?

A. The allowance will continue to be paid to the relatives or dependents as long as they remain

eligible. Deductions required as the soldier's contribution to the family allowance are not disturbed or affected by court-martial forfeiture or by forfeiture of pay because of being sick *not* in line of duty. In other words, as long as a soldier who has a family allowance is in the status of an enlisted man in the last four grades, he receives a pay credit sufficient to cover his family-allowance deduction each month, regardless of other claims against his pay. Any claims of a percentage of a soldier's pay are figured on the soldier's pay *less* the family-allowance deduction, and not on his full pay.

**23. Q.** Is it compulsory for payment of a family allowance to be retroactive to any date previous to the first of the month following the actual date of application?

A. The privilege of having the payment of a family allowance retroactive to a date previous to the first of the month following the actual date of application is limited to certain cases and, in these cases, is at the option of the applicant within the limits described below.

**24. Q.** When may the payment of a family allowance be retroactive?

A. A soldier who was in the service on June 1, 1942, and who had relatives or dependents (either Class A or Class B or both) eligible on that date, may have the payment of the family allowance to those relatives or dependents made retroactive to June 1, 1942, if he files an application for them on or before December 23, 1942. If he elects to make the payment retroactive to June 1, 1942, his contribution to the family allowance for each month back to June 1, 1942, will be charged to his pay, if the deductions for these months have not already been made. This charge will be satisfied as rapidly as possible out of succeeding months' pay, always, however, leaving the soldier at least a \$10 pay credit at the end of each month, exclusive of possible court-martial forfeitures.

In the case of those soldiers who, before official application forms became available, submitted informal applications or indicated their intention of submitting an application for a family allowance, deductions from their pay from the accrual date (usually June 1, 1942) were mandatory. This procedure was invoked to protect the soldier from the hardship of having the accumulated deductions made from his pay at a later date. However, if the soldier later declines to make a formal application and an approved application is not filed by or on behalf of his relatives or dependents, the deductions

so made, less any payments already made to his beneficiaries, may be refunded to him.

Soldiers who entered the Army between June 1 and June 23, 1942, have the same privilege of making their applications retroactive as soldiers who were in the service on June 1, 1942, except that the retroactive date will be July 1, 1942, instead of June 1, 1942.

If a soldier has a retroactive privilege but does not wish to exercise it, the month in which he wishes the monthly family allowance to commence should be stated by inserting at the end of the fifth line, Section I, of the application form the words "Commencing with the month of \_\_\_\_\_" (specifying month and year).

An application filed by or on behalf of a Class "A" relative, instead of by the soldier, is entitled to the same retroactive privilege as is extended to the application of a soldier in service on June 1, 1942 or June 23, 1942 as indicated above, if the applicant so elects.

Due to the fact that the allowance to Class "B" dependents may be terminated by the soldier at will, applications filed by or on behalf of such Class B dependents, instead of by the soldier, are not entitled to this retroactive privilege.

Applications for a family allowance based on the service of any soldier who was not in active service on June 23, 1942, do not have a retroactive privilege.

After December 23, 1942, no payment of a family allowance will be retroactive to any date previous to the first of the month following the date of application, except in those cases considered by the Allowance and Allotment Branch to be special because of the exigencies of the service.

**25. Q. When an application is filed which is not to be retroactive, when will the first deduction be made from the soldier's pay?**

A. The first deduction from, or charge to, the soldier's pay will be made for the month following the month in which the application was filed. For example, if an application is filed on December 27, 1942, the allowance will begin to accrue on the first of January 1943; the first deduction from, or charge to, the soldier will be made against his pay for the month of January 1943, and the allowance will be payable to his relatives or dependents on or about February 1, 1943.

**26. Q. Are officer candidates and air mechanics eligible to apply for a family allowance?**

A. Every soldier in the last four grades is eligible to apply for a family allowance, and is subject to

the regulations governing them, for whatever period (after June 1, 1942, and until 6 months after the present war ends) during which both he and his relatives or dependents are eligible.

**27. Q. It is said that all statements involving relationship to, or dependency upon, a soldier must be supported by documentary evidence, which may consist of affidavits. What is an affidavit?**

A. An affidavit is a statement or declaration in writing, made under oath before a civil or military authority who is authorized to administer oaths. (See "Dependency," page 9.) An official seal of office should appear on all affidavits executed by a civil authority in those States where seals are required. Proper civil authorities usually include: (a) clerk of court, (b) notary public, (c) prothonotary, (d) captain of a vessel at sea, (e) judge, (f) justice of the peace. Proper military authorities usually include: (a) adjutant or adjutant general of a command, (b) summary court, (c) judge advocate, (d) investigating officer, (e) president of board of officers, (f) recorder of board of officers.

**28. Q. Will photostatic copies of documentary evidence be accepted?**

A. Photostatic copies of documentary evidence will be accepted provided the original document shows no erasures, alterations, or irregularities and appears in all respects to be genuine.

**29. Q. If the relatives or dependents of a soldier are in immediate need and distress, how can they get help to tide them over until their regular family allowances are received?**

A. There are a number of private service organizations throughout the country which are giving help to soldiers' families who might otherwise suffer hardship because of the soldier's military service. For example, the American Red Cross has local chapters in over 3,400 cities and towns, and additional branches in many more villages. The Army Emergency Relief has a section officer in almost every Army post and camp, and a branch officer in every Service Command Headquarters. (See page 12 for addresses of these service commands.)

**30. Q. Where may dependents of men in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard get information on family allowances?**

A. Regarding the Navy, write: Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Regarding the Marine Corps, write: Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps, Washington, D. C. Regarding the Coast Guard, write: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

## IX. EMERGENCY ALLOTMENTS IN CASE SOLDIER IS MISSING, BE-SIEGED, OR CAPTURED

As has been explained, Public Law 625, approved June 23, 1942, provides family allowances for certain relatives and dependents of all soldiers in the four lowest grades. The relatives and dependents of soldiers of these grades who are missing, missing in action, captured, or interned are included in the persons entitled to the benefits of this law.

A previously enacted law, Public Law 490, approved March 7, 1942 (published in Bulletin 14, War Department, 1942) authorized dependency payments of a different character. Such payments were authorized for the purpose of providing support for the dependents of all officers, nurses, warrant officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees officially reported as missing, missing in action, captured, or interned. These payments may be by continuation of previously made allotments, by increases in such allotments, or by making new allotments. These payments are solely from the pay which accrues to the credit of the missing person.

Allotments authorized to be paid by Public Law 490 may not exceed the amount required for the reasonable support of dependents and in no case may they, with other deductions from pay, exceed the base and longevity pay to be credited to the absent person.

In exceptional cases when persons in active service have not made proper provision for dependents, Public Law 490 authorizes the Secretary of War to make allotments of the persons' pay for the support of their dependents, even though these persons are not in a missing status.

Involuntary allotments from pay of persons in active service, other than the four lowest enlisted grades, for the support of their dependents, can be made only under the provisions of Public Law 490.

Certain relatives and dependents of enlisted men of the four lowest grades may receive family allowances under the provisions of Public Law 625. Under Public Law 490, allotments of pay in these cases may also be made to dependents to cover an emergency or to supplement a family allowance under Public Law 625 that may be proved to be inadequate.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that each soldier in the lowest four grades should apply for a family allowance under Public Law 625 for his

eligible relatives and dependents, since such a family allowance continues if the soldier is later reported missing, captured, or interned. If a soldier in these grades has no family allowance in effect and is reported missing, a dependent needing support should apply for the family allowance and may also make application for an allotment from the soldier's pay under Public Law 490 if and when the family allowance may be proved inadequate.

In general, persons finding it necessary to apply for dependency allotments under Public Law 490 are advised to contact the nearest Red Cross chapter which is prepared to assist in preparing application for such allotments.

Public Law 490 contains other relief authorizations, including payments of insurance premiums by allotments from pay, and provision for transportation of dependents and effects of persons killed, injured, or missing, as a result of military operations. Application for such relief should be made direct by letter to the Dependency Allotment Section, Allowance and Allotment Branch, A. G. O., Building "Y," 20th and B Streets NE., Washington, D. C., with full statement of the circumstances.

## X. PENALTIES FOR FRAUD

*From: The Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942 (Public Law 625—77th Cong.; Bull. 29, W. D., 1942)*

Sec. 116. Whoever shall obtain or receive any money, check, or family allowance \* \* \* without being entitled thereto and with intent to defraud, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Sec. 117. Whoever in any claim for family allowance or in any document required \* \* \* makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false, shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or both.

Sec. 118. Any person who has been entitled to payment of a family allowance \* \* \* and whose entitlement to payment of such allowance has ceased shall, if he thereafter accepts payment of such allowance with the intent to defraud, be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Sec. 119. No part of any amount paid \* \* \* shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with any family allowance \* \* \* and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating this section shall be \* \* \* fined in any sum not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

### BOOKLET #4-1

Allowance and Allowment Branch, A. G. O.

Building Y

20th and B Streets, N.E.

Washington

NOTE—This booklet is issued for the purpose of furnishing information of general interest. It does not have the effect of law, regulation, or ruling

**END OF  
TITLE**